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Attorney Docket No. 01146/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Yoshihisa Kamata et al

Serial No. : 09/813,210

Filed : March 20, 2001

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS  
AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

Art Unit : 2622

Examiner :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)  
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of Search Report issued in the counterpart European application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications; and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that all of the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

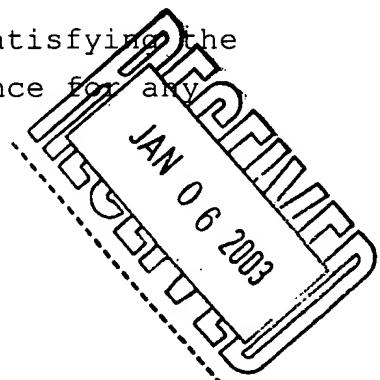
  
S. Diane Franklin

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)**

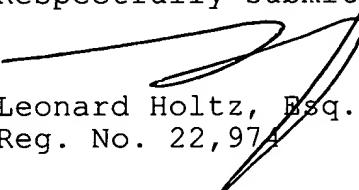
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of December 9, 2002. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)**

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

Encls.

Dated: December 23, 2002

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>MPEP 609</i> <i>DEC 23 2002</i> <i>MAILED</i>		Application Number	09/813,210	
		Filing Date	March 20, 2001	
		First Named Inventor	Yoshihisa KAMATA et al	
		Group Art Unit	2622	
		Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	01146/LH

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
		5,105,283	A	FOREST et al	04-14-1992	
		5,760,912	A	ITOH	06-02-1998	
		5,982,999	A	AOYAGI et al	11-09-1999	<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>JAN 02 2003</b> <b>Technology Center 2600</b>

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Offc <sup>3</sup>	Document Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature      Date Considered

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: December 23, 2002